

Message Text

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45

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15

NSC-05 /056 W

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P R 111547Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9166

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 6023

CASABLANCA FOR RCAA WHITMAN

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: EAIR, GH, US

SUB: COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS REITERATES HARD

LINE ON BILATERAL AVIATION MATTERS

REF: A) STATE 179679, B) ACCRA 5150 AND PREVIOUS

1. WHILE CALLING ON COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BAAH SEPTEMBER 10 ON OTHER MATTERS (SEPTELS), HE ASKED "WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT PAN AMERICAN?" I REPLIED "I WAS HOPEING YOU COULD TELL ME." I WENT ON TO RE-EMPHASIZE THAT PAN AM A PRIVATE FIRM AND I HOPED PAN AM AND GHANA AIRWAYS (GH) COULD ENTER INTO TALKS WITHOUT PARTICIPATION RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS.

2. BAAH THEN ASKED ABOUT FORTHCOMING GOVERNMENTAL BILATERAL TALKS "REGARDING LANDING RIGHTS IN U.S." WHEN I CONFINED MYSELF TO STATING THAT I WAS PLEASED TALKS HAD BEEN AGREED TO, HE WENT ON "WHY WON'T YOU GIVE GHANA THE RIGHT TO LAND IN US? WE WON'T BE ABLE TO FLY THERE FOR SOME TIME, BUT WE WANT THE RIGHT."

3. I SUGGEST THAT IF GOG COULD INTEREST SEVERAL OTHER WEST
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AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS IN FORMING A JOINT AIRLINE THIS MIGHT BE

HELPFUL IN APPROACHING USG FOR LANDING RIGHTS. HE IMMEDIATELY
PUT DOWN THIS IDEA AND COMMENTED RATHER HOTLY, "WE, AS
SOVEREIGN NATION, HAVE GIVEN US RIGHT TO LAND IN GHANA, AND
WE EXPECT RECIPROCAL RIGHTS IN US."

4. BAAH ASKED IF I WAS AWARE THAT PAN AM RUNS RISK OF NO
LONGER SERVING GHANA. I RESPONDED THAT I AM AWARE PAN AM
RE-EXAMINING WHETHER IT CAN CONTINUE TO SERVE ACCRA
VIABLY IN VIEW RESTRICTIONS PLACED UPON IT.

5. IT CLEAR TO ME THAT BAAH IS A HARD-LINER WITHIN GOG
REGARDING RECIPROCAL LANDING RIGHTS.
BLACK

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: EAIR, GH, US, GHANA AIRWAYS, PANAM
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